

MEMORANDUM

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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INFORMATION~~

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POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

May 14, 1980

TIME AND PLACE: 10:30-11:15 a.m.; White House Situation Room

SUBJECT: Summary of Conclusions -- PRC Meeting
on Argentina (C)PARTICIPANTSStateWarren Christopher, Dep.
Secretary
John Bushnell, Dep. Ass't.
SecretaryEnergyWoody Cunningham, Ass't.
Secretary for Nuclear EnergyDefenseW. Graham Claytor, Jr.,
Dep. Secretary
Frank Kramer, Principal
Dep. Ass't. SecretaryArms Control and DisarmamentSpurgeon Keeny, Dep. Director
Richard Williamson, Nuclear
Exports Div. Chief, Bureau
of NonproliferationAgricultureJames Starkey, Dep.
Under SecretaryJoint Chiefs of StaffLt. General John Pustay
FOIA(b) (3) - 50 USC 403g - CIACentral IntelligenceCommerceLuther Hodges, Dep. Secretary
Abraham Katz, Ass't. Secretary
for Internat. Economic Policy
and ResearchWhite HouseDavid Aaron
Henry OwenNational Security CouncilThomas P. Thornton
Robert Pastor

The PRC met to discuss US-Argentine relations in light of your concern about the development of closer ties between Argentina and the Soviet Union. It was agreed that we should continue to seek improvement in our relations with Argentina, recognizing

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Review on May 14, 2000
Extended by Zbigniew Brzezinski
Reason for Extension: NSC 1.13(e)

~~Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP~~

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that probably no dramatic progress (or, for that matter, deterioration) is likely until there is a new government in Buenos Aires in early 1981.² In the next few weeks we may have to show our displeasure over Argentina's likely failure to be cooperative on the grain embargo; on the other hand, we can justify some positive steps in the relationship by the improving trend of Argentina's human rights performance.³ (S)

Looking to the longer-term, and assuming continuing improvement in human rights matters, we would propose a systematic effort to strengthen our ties with Argentina. This could ultimately lead to full normalization and perhaps repeal of legislative restrictions on military supply. (S)

This timetable should help deflect the Argentinians from too close a relationship with the Soviets -- a relationship that is in any event probably self-limiting due to the nature of the Argentine regime. (S)

All agencies supported this consensus; both Commerce and Defense however, made clear in the course of the discussions that they want to press for more rapid improvement in the relationship than do the other agencies. Defense was particularly concerned that our human rights and nuclear policies were forcing Argentina to draw close to the USSR. An interdepartmental Group will be set up to provide an opportunity to fine-tune our policies to meet the needs and concerns of individual agencies in line with the broad policy structure agreed upon.⁴ (S)

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